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## *House of Representatives*

HONORING SLOVAK EXPLOSIVE  
ORDINANCE DISPOSAL (EOD)  
MAJOR BARTAKOVICS AND EOD  
TEAM

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2011*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Slovak Explosive Ordinance Disposal, EOD, Maj. Roland Bartakovics and the entire Slovak EOD team for their role in resisting an assault by armed insurgents on Camp Nathan Smith in Kandahar. I would like to recognize the Slovaks for their bravery during a failed enemy attack on the base.

The camp in Kandahar, which houses the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team, KPRT, was attacked by four armed insurgents with rocket-propelled grenades and small fire arms. The attack lasted nearly 11 hours, and was ended by the Afghan National Police supported by coalition forces, including the Slovak EOD team. Thanks to the determined professionalism of the Slovak unit, at no point did the attackers gain access to the compound.

I would like to offer my condolences to the families and loved ones of those killed and injured during the attack. The heroic leadership of the entire Slovak unit will forever be remembered. Their service and dedication has brought great pride to their nation, families and communities.

Echoed throughout Afghanistan, the KPRT reflects a productive civilian-military partnership. The United States stands with the Afghan people and their government in pursuing the mutual goal of a stable and prosperous Afghanistan. The United States owes a great debt of gratitude to Maj. Roland Bartakovics and the entire Slovak EOD team for putting themselves in harm's way in the pursuit of freedom.